

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /101 W
----- 017027

R 240901 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9538

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PK

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR WITHDRAWS CASES AGAINST 11 OPPOSITION LEADERS

1. ON APRIL 23 , PUNJAB GOVERNOR MUSTAFAR KHAR ORDERED
WITHDRAWAL OF CHARGES OF OBJECTIONABLE SPEECHES UNDER DEFENSE
OF PAKISTAN RULES AGAINST 11 PUNJABI OPPOSITION FIGURES.
GOVERNMENT PRESS NOTE EXPLAINED THAT CASES DROPPED BECAUSE
OF IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE CREATED BY UNANIMOUS ADOPTION OF
CONSTITUTION.

2. CHARGES WITHDRAWN AGAINST NUMBER OF WELL KNOWN OPPOSITION
LEADERS, INCLUDING: NASRULLAH KHAN, PRESIDENT PAK DEMOCRATIC
PARTY; TUFAIL MOHAMMED, AMIR OF JAMAAT- E- ISLAMI ; MNA CHAUDRY
ZAHOR ELAHI OF COUNCIL MUSLIM LEAGUE; MAULANA SHAH AHMED
NOORANI, MNA OF JAMIAT ULEMA- E- PAKISTAN; AND LONG TIME COMMUNIST
LEADER OF NAZDOOR KISAN PARTY, MAJOR MOHAMMED ISHAQ.

3. COMMENT: GOVERNOR' S ACTION APPEARS TO BE ANOTHER EFFORT
BY PPP TO EASE POLITICAL TENSION AND REDUCE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE
OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION (REFTELS).
NOTABLY, HOWEVER, THREE CASES CHARGING AIR MARSHALL ASGHAR KHAN
WITH OBJECTIONABLE SPEECHES WERE NOT DROPPED AND MANY OPPOSITION
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FIGURES HAVE CRIMINAL CHARGES PENDING AGAINST THEM - CHARGES
WHICH IN MANY CASES APPEAR TO BE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED.
DECONTROL DEC 31, 1976
KING

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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30 JUN 2005

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